

was passionate about making it a better place.

Hinckley Township will certainly miss Ray's leadership, service, and positive outlook on life, though his work will forever be memorialized in our community. Ray's leadership will certainly be missed but never forgotten.

I pray for Ray's wife of 29 years, Emma, who serves as chief deputy recorder of Medina County and is a constant presence for so many people in the Medina Courthouse.

May God bless their three children, Michael, Christie, and Adam, and their four grandchildren during this challenging time. It is truly an honor to recognize such an individual whose class and love for community made us all better people.

IMPROVING DISTRIBUTION OF COVID-19 VACCINES

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, across the United States, Americans are finally seeing the administration of COVID-19 vaccines improve after a slow rollout.

The development of two highly effective vaccines in under 1 year is an unprecedented scientific accomplishment, but this effort is only truly recognized when we can get vaccine into the arm of every American who wants it.

That is why the first piece of legislation I introduced this year, the Coronavirus Vaccine and Therapeutic Development Act, would dramatically boost Federal investment in manufacturing and distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

There is no greater public health priority than getting this vaccine into the arms of every American, and I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure the equitable distribution of the vaccine.

To improve the facilitation of vaccine distribution, I have also introduced bipartisan legislation with my colleague, Dr. LARRY BUCSHON, that would improve and expand information-sharing between State and Federal governments to ensure that vaccines are being administered effectively and efficiently.

I urge my colleagues to join both of these bills so that we can save lives and get our economy back on track.

□ 0915

HONORING DR. LARRY DEBOER

(Mr. BAIRD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Purdue University professor Dr. Larry DeBoer. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. DeBoer as a

member of Purdue Extension Service as an Indiana State representative and as a farmer.

Dr. DeBoer recently retired from Purdue after 36 years of teaching economics. His tenure at Purdue is distinguished and worthy of recognition. Every semester, he taught 200 to 400 students macroeconomics. In addition to that, he has authored macroeconomics textbooks for universities.

Dr. DeBoer was recognized for his outstanding teaching with numerous awards, like the Charles B. Murphy Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award in 2015 and the Richard L. Kohls Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher Award in 2014.

In addition to being a professor, Dr. DeBoer has advised and worked with the Indiana Legislative Services Agency on tax and finance issues, and has worked on former Governor Mitch Daniels' Commission on Local Government Reform.

The State of Indiana has benefited greatly from his deep knowledge and expertise in the State's economic affairs. I want to wish Dr. DeBoer the very best in his retirement.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 5, 2021.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on February 5, 2021, at 7:58 a.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 5.
With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

ROBERT F. REEVES,
Deputy Clerk.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP ACT OF 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 85, I call up the bill (H.R. 447) to amend the Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the "National Apprenticeship Act") and expand the national apprenticeship system to include apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeship registered under such Act, to promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 85, the amendment printed in part A of House Report 117-3, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 447

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Apprenticeship Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect beginning on October 1, 2021.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT.

The Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the "National Apprenticeship Act"; 50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), is amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

"(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the 'National Apprenticeship Act'.

"(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

"Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

"Sec. 2. Definitions.

"Sec. 3. Programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Sec. 4. Transition provisions.

"Sec. 5. Disaggregation of data.

"Sec. 6. Relation to other laws.

"TITLE I—PROMOTING PROGRAMS UNDER THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM

"Subtitle A—The Office of Apprenticeship, State Registration Agency Approval Process, and Interagency Agreement

"Sec. 111. The Office of Apprenticeship.

"Sec. 112. National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships.

"Sec. 113. State apprenticeship agencies and State Offices of Apprenticeship.

"Sec. 114. Interagency agreement with Department of Education.

"Subtitle B—Process and Standards for the National Apprenticeship System

"Sec. 121. Apprenticeable occupations standards.

"Sec. 122. Quality standards of programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Sec. 123. Apprenticeship agreements.

"Sec. 124. Registration of programs under the national apprenticeship system.

"Subtitle C—Evaluations and Research

"Sec. 131. Program evaluations.

"Sec. 132. National apprenticeship system research.

"Subtitle D—General Provisions

"Sec. 141. Authorization of appropriations.

"TITLE II—MODERNIZING THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY GRANTS

"Sec. 201. Grant requirements.

"Sec. 202. Uses of Funds.

"Sec. 203. Grant evaluations.

"Sec. 204. Grant appropriations.

"SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

"In this Act:

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Office of Apprenticeship established under section 111(a).

"(2) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—The term 'Advisory Committee' means the National Advisory Committee on Apprenticeships established under section 112.

"(3) APPRENTICE.—The term 'apprentice' means a program participant in an apprenticeship program.

"(4) APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT.—The term 'apprenticeship agreement' means a written agreement under section 123 between—

"(A) an apprentice, a youth apprentice, or a pre-apprentice; and

"(B) a sponsor.